

HOUSE BILL 251

By Freeman

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4,  
Chapter 1, Part 3, relative to state symbols.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 1, Part 3, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) The secretary of state shall conduct an online poll to determine which Tennessee recording artist should be nominated for designation as the official state recording artist.

(b) The secretary of state shall include a link on the secretary's homepage that directs users to the online poll.

(c) The online poll must be open for voting from August 1, 2019, through September 1, 2019.

(d)

(1) The online poll must include a list of recording artists that meet the following criteria:

(A) The recording artist currently lives in this state or lived in this state for at least (5) years;

(B) The recording artist has made recordings of music in this state;

(C) The recording artist may be living or deceased;

(D) The recording artist may have recorded music in any genre;

and

(E) The recording artist has made significant contributions to the world of music evidenced by awards, number of hit songs, number of records sold, or by influence on other recording artists.

(2) A musical group may be selected if one (1) of the members otherwise meets the criteria of subdivision (d)(1).

(3) The secretary of state may enlist the assistance of a recording industry organization to create the list required under this subsection (d).

(e) At the end of the polling period, the secretary of state shall announce the winner of the online poll. The winner of the poll is not automatically designated the official state recording artist. The secretary of state shall email the results of the online poll to the members of the general assembly, who may introduce legislation to officially designate the recording artist.

(f) This section is deleted January 1, 2020.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.